

# CAREER FOCUS

## Congratulations on your promotion!

*Don't let up now—plan now to get closer to your goals*

**BY MASTER SGT. DAVID HALVORSON**  
TEAM KIRTLAND  
career assistance advisor

Many TEAM KIRTLAND personnel have good reason to smile this morning as they bask in the lingering reality of yesterday's release of results for this year's technical and master sergeant promotion cycles.

Many months of hard work and study are required, but in the end it's all worth it. Just ask someone who made the cut! And for those who received word of a well-deserved promotion, it surely seems appropriate to take a break from the stress and hard work, to slow down and really enjoy the moment, right? Yes and no!

Actually, now is a great time to start planning your next move, capturing and maintaining the momentum you've established—so don't be too quick to slow the pace.

I'm not suggesting you shouldn't celebrate your hard-earned achievement—au contraire! Achieving either of these two grades represents a significant milestone in the career of an Airman! What I *am* suggesting however is that now is *not* the time to back off on achieving your goals.

Consider where you want to be in three years, six years and nine years... Now consider what it's going to take to get there! Do you have a plan in place? Have you mapped out a course for suc-

cess? If not, let's apply a little spin to a motivation tool I covered back in April of this year—the 'next goal' philosophy.

For myself, hard work and dedication have paid huge dividends over the years. But staying motivated isn't always easy as we strive to balance work, school, family and budget concerns.

Right now, most technical and master sergeant selects are looking forward to a break from the stress inherent to achieving any promotion. After all, they won't be eligible to test again for many months, perhaps years! Why not take this 'down time' and tackle another career or personal goal?

I've always found the 'in-between' years to be the best time to focus on my educational (and other) pursuits. It's a lot easier to get fully engaged in a schedule that enables you to complete a degree or certification program *before* you need to begin the process of studying for that next promotion.

Of course, there are other goals to pursue during these "off" months. Starting a family, building that dream house, caring for a family member or loved one, pursuing a challenging assignment, etc. Everyone has a story to tell, but in each case it's the story's ending that remains unwritten.

If we can add to the story as it unfolds, and influence the outcome of the chapters that lie ahead, why then, would anyone choose to stand idly on the side to let things develop on their own. Sadly, it hap-



Master Sgt. David Halvorson

pens all too often.

Now, some would say that launching headfirst into that next challenge sounds demanding or unreasonable. It's not the easiest route for sure: how often have we heard the truism, "there's little reward for taking the easy way out?"

Without question, each of us needs to take advantage of some well-deserved downtime, but we also owe it to ourselves (and our families) to plan for the years ahead. It's a proven strategy in financial investing, and it makes even more sense when we speak of investing in ourselves. A little time spent tackling important issues now will result in a compounded end result in the long-term.

So take a moment to visualize yourself attaining your next goal. If you haven't established any goals yet, take a few days or weeks to do some soul-searching and future planning. The resulting goals and plans can serve as a reminder of what your future status *is* and what it could potentially *be* through *sustained* hard work and effort.

Be an active partner in writing the next chapter in *your* life story by getting involved in planning your future today! What are you waiting for?



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# COMMAND CHIEF's CHOICE

## Staff Sgt. Young Lee

works in the 377th Medical Support Squadron Pharmacy as a pharmacy technician.

His responsibilities are to ensure all his patients receive their medications at both the main and satellite pharmacies and provide answers to their questions.

He also inspects all the clinics in the 377th Medical Group and makes sure they responsibly provide highest quality of care to their patients.

★ **What do you like best about this assignment?**  
Serving hundreds of people who need my help.

★ **What is the most memorable event in your Air Force career?**  
I really don't have one big memorable event, but it happens everyday whenever patients come to the pharmacy and say thank you for what we do.

★ **What are your hobbies?**  
Outdoor camping, night fishing and snowboarding.

★ **What person do you consider a great influence in your life?**  
My mother.

★ **Where do you see yourself in 10 years?**  
In a million dollar house in California.

★ **What aspect of your life do you consider most important?**  
My family and everything that I WANT TO DO, not what I have to do.

★ **What is your main goal in life?**  
Have a happy family and be a great husband and father.

★ **Favorite movie?**  
Rainman.



Staff Sgt. Young Lee



# FORUM

[kirtlandcc.forum@kirtland.af.mil](mailto:kirtlandcc.forum@kirtland.af.mil), 846-4240

## Zia Park break-ins

We are concerned wives who live in Zia Park. In the past two months we have not only heard about, but seen and encountered houses being broken into at night.

Since these break-ins have occurred we have become quite concerned for our safety and for the safety of others around us. We were curious about the number of times law enforcement patrols the area and when we asked them, they told us, "one time every four hours or less." Depending on the workload they receive throughout the day (example: accidents, exercises, etc.,).

We know many wives who are concerned as well because all of our husbands work the night shift and we are alone at night.

We know that in all of these encounters law enforcement has responded to these incidents. Since they are aware of these occurrences, we are concerned about what is being done to increase the safety and security of our residences.

We are also wondering if law enforcement could start patrolling at dusk at least every two hours to decrease the number of break-ins occurring.

How are we supposed to feel safe anywhere if we cannot even feel safe in our own homes on a highly secured military base?

We want to thank you for your time and hope you will take into consideration our suggestion.

We understand why you're concerned. During January and February, we had five private property thefts in Zia Park Housing. To apprehend those responsible, our security forces members increased law enforcement patrol coverage and presence.

These measures included two mandatory walking patrols for every housing area per shift, one mandatory traffic enforcement patrol for every housing area per shift and random base housing patrol drive-by coverage. This hard work paid off in late February when security forces caught the perpetrator—a dependent—who was responsible for all five break-ins.

We have since banned this person from the installation and there have been no reported break-ins since that time.



**COL. HENRY L. ANDREWS, JR.**  
377th Air Base Wing commander

If you or your neighbors are interested, TEAM KIRTLAND would certainly like to begin a neighborhood watch program. Please let us know what you think.

## Thanks, Captain Fogelman

I would like to sincerely thank Capt., Dr., Corey Fogelman for the great job he did when my son was stricken with a recent illness. Captain Fogelman displayed his experience and quick thinking when he saw my son for flu-like symptoms.

Captain Fogelman immediately evaluated my son and appropriately made the most important decision ever for our family when he directed a blood culture be taken. As a direct result of that blood culture, my son was, within less than 36 hours, correctly diagnosed with bacterial meningitis. He was promptly treated and is alive today without any ill effects.

The timely blood culture allowed medical personnel to quickly identify, isolate and treat the illness. It ensured my son received the most aggressive care without delay, and turned a potentially tragic situation into one with a positive result.

It is difficult for our family to convey in words just how thankful we are for Captain Fogelman.

We thank everyone who called or visited, particularly my wife's co-workers at the Gibson Child Development Center.

You will never realize just how much support you provided us. Your actions made an uncertain time less difficult, and helped remind us that hope is always alive.

Sincere appreciation and may God bless you all.

Thank you for taking the time to recognize Captain Fogelman of the 377th Medical Group and all those who supported you during those difficult times.

Captain Fogelman is one of the many outstanding providers who strive to help make this happen for our beneficiaries. We are very happy to know everything worked out for the best for your son and that you had plenty of support from family and friends.

Your son's recovery is testimony to how well the 377th Medical Group and the civilian hospitals work together to provide the best possible care for TEAM KIRTLAND.

## Retirees at Thunderbird Inn

I was disappointed to read in the April 30 issue of the Nucleus of your decision to end the expanded hours for retirees and their families at the Thunderbird Inn dining facility. The reason is certainly understandable, as no retiree would want to adversely impact on the services available to our troops.

On the other hand, as a retiree who has been able to occasionally enjoy this privilege, I believe that there is perhaps a middle ground to be considered, so that your decision could be somewhat modified, to everyone's advantage.

The dates the National Guard and Reserve are generally known well in advance. This is necessary of course, to allow for the required coordination with activities, including increased food preparation, etc.

Why not routinely publish those dates, perhaps weekly in the Of Note column of the Nucleus as times when retirees will necessarily be limited to the previously authorized times of 8-10:30 a.m., on weekends, and 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., on holidays.

If there is no training scheduled,

then retirees could be allowed to eat at the dining facility on the previously extended hours test—which appeared to work very well at those times whenever I was present—with no apparent taxing of the facility.

Admittedly, some additional coordination would be required to publish these dates, but I believe that all retirees would appreciate a reconsideration of your decision.

Thank you for contacting the Forum with your concerns. While we would like all of our customers to be able to enjoy the use of the dining facility, we must ensure we do not impact our primary customers, the meal cardholders and temporary duty personnel.

We reviewed your suggestion to publicize the planned Guard and Reserve training dates in the Nucleus, but we cannot guarantee all our retiree customers have access to the paper, making it difficult to ensure they know the training dates. Additionally, dates for the Guard and Reserve training weekends change without prior notice, making it difficult to provide a consistent schedule of their training dates.

We appreciate the business our retiree community provides to the dining facility. As always, the Thunderbird Inn staff will continue to provide top quality service to our retiree customers under the newly established hours.

## Forum

We want your suggestions and comments concerning Kirtland AFB.

However, may we also suggest giving base agencies or the chain of command the chance to resolve your concern before calling Forum.

If you decide the Forum is the right answer, we don't print callers' names.

## Customer service

Chapel, 846-5691

CE Help Desk, 846-8222

Commissary, 846-9586

Computer help, 846-5926

Energy wasting, 846-4633

Exchange Service, 266-9887

Family Services, 846-0741

Finance, 846-8045, 846-6639

Law Enforcement, 846-7926

Legal Services, 846-4217

Medical Clinic, 846-3406

Services Squadron, 846-1828

Write: 377 ABW/CC Forum

2000 Wyoming SE

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